Washington State Patrol Media Release

Chief John R. Batiste

Captain Jeff Devere Government and Media Relations (360) 753-5299 – office (360) 753-5469 – fax http://www.wsp.wa.gov



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Contact: Trooper J.J. Gundermann

Phone: (253) 536-4386

Olympia High School to Conduct Mock Car Accident

Students, emergency responders and law enforcement officials are joining forces to stage a mock car accident at Ingersoll Stadium at Olympia High School on Friday, May 19th beginning at 12:45 p.m.

Two vehicles will be involved in the mock accident and there will be two fatalities. Drama students from Olympia High School will be portraying the crash victims as part of the re-enactment. Local paramedics, state patrol officers, law enforcement officials and staff from the Thurston County Coroner's office and other emergency responders will also participate in the mock crash.

"Our goal is to raise awareness about the dangers of drinking and driving. We want to make sure kids stay safe during the prom and graduation celebrations," said Cheryl Selby staff member for the City of Olympia Safe and Sober Driving Program. "These kinds of re-enactments make a big impression among young people. It can really open their eyes to the consequences of driving under the influence."

The event will be filmed by TCTV, the local Olympia community access cable station for later broadcast and use in drivers' education courses.

Cheryl Fox, the mother of a young woman whose daughter was killed by a drunk driver three days before her senior year at Timberline High School will also be at the school to talk to students.

Trooper J.J. Gundermann, the Public Information Officer for the Washington State Patrol states, "Car collisions are the leading cause of death for young people between 16 and 23 years of age. This event will surely make an impact on the students and help prevent further tragedies."

Olympia High School is located at 1302 North St. SE, Olympia.

For more information, contact:

Cheryl Selby City of Olympia Safe and Sober Driving, 360-753-8284

or 360-970-6611

Mary Segawa TOGETHER! 360-493-2230 ext. 12

J.J. Gundermann, Public Information Officer, Washington State Patrol 253-536-4386

253-606-1796 or john.gundermann@wsp.wa.gov